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Mr. J. A. Saldanha :—" Will the Government be pleased to state why only one village panchayat in the South Kanara district has been entrusted with the work of looking after forests ? "

Education.

Educational grant to schools in Ramnad district.

*48 Q.—Mr. A. Chidambara Nadar : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Provincial grant for education for schools in the Ramnad district has been reduced this year ; and

(b) if so, whether there has been proportionate distribution of grants to schools in Ramnad district ?

A.—(a) The provision made in the budget estimate for 1925–26 for the payment of teaching grants to aided elementary schools has not yet been distributed among the several District Educational Councils. The amount placed at the disposal of the District Educational Council, Ramnad, for the payment of teaching grants in the year 1924–25 was Rs. 1,34,268 as against Rs. 1,18,082 in 1923–24.

(b) Does not arise.

Fostering of new University centres.

* 49 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) by what means under the operation of the Madras University Act new University centres are fostered ;

(b) what special grant have Government sanctioned to the colleges at Trichinopoly and Mangalore with a view to foster an embryo university life in them ;

(c) whether there is any town in the Andhra country with more colleges and with more scholars in the college department than there are at Trichinopoly or Mangalore ;

(d) if the answer to the last question is in the negative, what justification there is for the Andhra country to have a separate University in preference to Trichinopoly or Mangalore ; and

(e) what form the Andhra University will take—(i) whether it will be on the model of the present Madras University Act, or (ii) on the model of the recent University Act superseded by the present Act ?

A.—(a) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to sections 27 (1) (f) and 53 of the Madras University Act (1923) and the Preamble to the Act.

(b) The colleges referred to are given the usual grants with reference to the provisions of the Grant-in-Aid Code.

(c) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the Subsidiary table No. 1 (a) appended to Volume II of the Report on Public Instruction for 1923–24.

(d) & (e) The information may be gathered from the Andhra University Bill and the Statement of Objects and Reasons which will be published shortly.

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Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know what special grants the Government have sanctioned to the colleges at Trichinopoly and Mangalore with a view to foster an embryo university life in them ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" Grants are given according to the Grant-in-Aid Code. If there are any special grants applied for they will be considered in the light of the provisions of the Grant-in-Aid Code."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Cannot the Grant-in-Aid Code be amended so as to foster university life ? "

The hon. Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO :—" The attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the answer to clause (a) of this question."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" Will the Government be pleased to see that the objects mentioned in the Code are carried out in practice ? "

Revision of the Madras Educational Rules.

* 50 Q.—Mr. R. VEERIAN : With reference to answer to clause (d) of question No. 483, dated 18th March 1925, will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether there is any proposal now before the Government to revise the Madras Educational Rules so as to make more liberal concessions to the members of the depressed classes in the secondary schools ?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to G.Os. No. 707, Law (Education), dated 5th May 1925, and No. 855, Law (Education), dated 19th May 1925, published at pages 194 and 247–248 of Part I-B of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 12th May 1925 and 23rd June 1925, respectively.

Registration.

Promotions and punishments in the Registration Department.

* 51 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(a) the number of Sub-Registrars in the higher and lower grades, including probationers, who have been compelled to resign, dismissed, suspended or fined and whose increments have been stopped, during the years 1922 to 1924 ;

(b) the number of appeals preferred to Government for mitigation of punishment and the number of cases, in which the punishments were reduced or cancelled ;

(c) how many Sub-Registrars of the lower grade have been promoted to the upper grade as a special case, between 1922 and 1924 ;

(d) whether it is a fact that Mr. Venkata Rao and Sriman Charam Das Baishnab of the Ganjām district were promoted to the upper grade in preference to seniors ;

(e) if so, how many seniors have been overlooked and whether such promotions were made on the recommendation of the head of the department, or at the will and pleasure of the hon. the Minister ;

(f) whether the claims of minorities and backward communities were considered in these promotions ; and